



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 8, 1972



MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Subject: Acceleration of Publication of "Foreign  
Relations" Series

I have today instructed the Secretary of State to institute a program to reduce the time lag of the official documentary series "Foreign Relations of the United States," published by the Department of State, from 26 to 20 years.

The Department of State, in carrying out this instruction, will be seeking the assistance of your department or agency in the collection and declassification of the material in question. I ask that you cooperate fully with the Secretary of State to meet the above objectives in the most expeditious manner and to the maximum extent consistent with the requirements of national security.

*Richard Nixon*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 1972

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

March 8, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Subject: Acceleration of Publication of "Foreign Relations" Series

The official documentary series "Foreign Relations of the United States," published by the Department of State, has for many years provided the American public with an indispensable perspective on our Nation's history. The materials now being published, however, relate to the events of 1946, and I think that in the interests of a better informed public the length of time between event and publication should be shortened. Accordingly, I ask that, without impairing the quality and comprehensive nature of the series, you immediately institute a program to reduce this time lag to 20 years. Your objective should be to make this reduction within the next 3 years and to keep the publication point at 20 years from then on.

In order to achieve this goal in the most expeditious manner, I am today instructing the Secretary of Defense, the Director of Central Intelligence, and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs to cooperate fully with you in collecting and declassifying the appropriate materials to the maximum extent consistent with the requirements of national security.

RICHARD NIXON

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Approved For Release

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## Remarks:

Please send a copy  
to Physical Sec Dir.  
WJ

DONE 15 MAR 1972

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Executive Officer	10 MAR 1972

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